

PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: CSI-2014

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "FIRST CLASS MAIL"

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Harry Macey

In re Application of:

Schaller, et al.

Serial No.: 09/828,322

Filing Date: April 5, 2001

Title: BRIDGE-CLIP TISSUE CONNECTOR
APPARATUS AND METHODS

Examiner: K. Odland

Group Art Unit: 3743

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MAY 10 2004

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97

Mail Stop Amendments
Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98, Applicants submit for consideration in the above-identified application a copy of each of the documents listed on the attached Substitute Form 1449A. The Examiner is requested to make these documents of record.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

- ☒ Within three months of the application filing date or before receipt of a first Office Action on the merits; accordingly, no fee or separate requirements are required.
- ☐ After receipt of a first Office Action on the merits but before a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance.
- ☐ A fee is required. A check in/including the amount of \$* is enclosed.

- ☐ A Certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is provided below; accordingly, no fee is believed to be due.
- ☐ After receipt of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the issue fee. Accordingly, a Petition requesting consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement, an authorization to charge our deposit account, and a Certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) are provided below.

Applicants would appreciate the Examiner initialing and returning the Substitute Form 1449A, indicating that the information has been considered and made of record herein.

Applicants further bring the attention of the Examiner to the following co-owned patent applications:

U.S. Serial No. 10/627,168 filed July 25, 2003

U.S. Serial No. 10/715,797 filed November 18, 2003

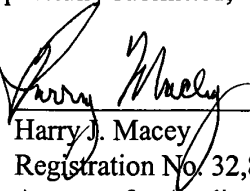
This Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 is not to be construed as a representation that: (i) a complete search has been made; (ii) additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist; (iii) the information, protocols, results and the like reported by third parties are accurate or enabling; or (iv) the above information constitutes prior art to the subject invention.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the U.S. Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 50-1947 referencing Attorney Docket No. CSI-2014. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

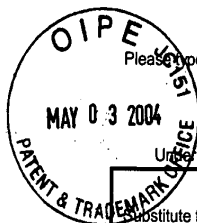
Date: April 28, 2004

By:



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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)		Complete if Known	
		Application Number	09/828,322
		Filing Date	April 5, 2001
		First Named Inventor	Laurent Schaller
		Group Art Unit	3743
		Examiner Name	K. Odland
Sheet 1 of 1	Attorney Docket Number	CSI-2014	

042804

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials'	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Documents		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, columns, lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
	1.	5,026,379		Yoon	06/25/1991	
	2.	5,454,834		Boebel et al.	10/03/1995	
	3.	6,613,059		Schaller et al.	09/02/2003	
	4.	6,641,593		Schaller et al.	11/04/2003	
	5.	6,695,859		Golden et al.	02/24/2004	
	6.	US2001-0018593		Schaller et al.	08/30/2001	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Documents			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²

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Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.